Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00076 092233Z

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ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 STR-01 TAR-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /039 W

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EO 11652 NA TAGS EAGR CA SUBJ 1975 MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM

REFS (A) STATE 282970 (B) STATE 626

1. ON THE BASIS OF REFERENCES TO CANADA IN REFTELS,
EMBASSY SEES POSSIBILITY THAT CANADIANS WILL QUESTION
WHAT ADVANTAGE THERE WILL BE TO THEM IN ATTEMPTING TO
RESOLVE PROBLEM US/CANADIAN TRADE RESTRICTIONS ON MEAT
AND CATTLE. WE ARE AWARE, OF COURSE, THAT VOLUNTARY
RESTRAINT PROGRAM DOES NOT AFFECT PORK AND LIVE ANIMALS.
WE ALSO UNDERSTAND REASON FOR FIXING ESTIMATE OF BEEF
IMPORTS AT 17 MILLION POUNDS IN ALLOCATING SHARES UNDER
RESTRAINT PROGRAM. WE ASSUME, HOWEVER, THAT CANADIANS
KNOW OR WILL LEARN BASIS OF OUR CALCULATION FOR QUARTERLY
ESTIMATE AND WILL REALIZE THAT, IF BILATERAL PROBLEM IS
RESOLVED BY BOTH SIDES REMOVING RESTRICTIONS, THEIR
PROSPECTS FOR ADDITIONAL SALES MAY BE LIMITED.

2. EMBASSY INTENDS IN CONVERSATION WITH GOC OFFICIALS TO CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE GOC TO REMOVE ITS IMPORT RESTRICTIONS, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON HOW TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS THAT MAY BE RAISED REGARDING CANADIAN MARKET OPPORTUNITIES IN U.S. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 00076 092233Z

FOR BEEF AFTER THIS IS DONE.

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